2/13/84 U5680-1 A

Vol. 53, No. 1
ISSN 0002-4163

January 1984

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA
CBER
COLLEGE OF COMMERCE & BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

alabama business

Tradition of Service to Continue

The Center for Business and Economic Research has worked closely with business and industry throughout Alabama since our establishment in 1930. During our fifty-three-year history the goals of the Center have remained the same: to collect, maintain, analyse, and disseminate economic and demographic data on our state and region. We have sought to meet these goals through numerous research programs, publications, and information services. The Alabama Econometric Model is now well established as a major planning tool for business and government; our population forecasts are used by business and local, regional, and state planning agencies; and our annual *Economic Outlook* and biennial *Economic Abstract of Alabama* are essential publications to persons throughout Alabama, the region, and the nation.

The weak national and state economy of recent years, however, has taken its toll. Declining buying power and rising demand for remaining resources forced us to curtail the publication of *Alabama Business*. While a difficult and painful decision, we felt it necessary if we were to continue to build and maintain those economic and demographic data resources so important to all of you and to us.

There was an immediate response to the loss of *Alabama Business*. The data and analysis contained in each issue had become an important resource to many public and private sector organizations. While all of us at CBER had hoped that the loss of *Alabama Business* would be only temporary, this public response drove us harder to overcome the shortage of funds and to continue to maintain and develop the Center's comprehensive resources. We are pleased to be back!

You will find there have been some changes. Several new series have been added and others dropped. The retail trade series, of great interest to many of our readers, continues to receive special attention. Future issues will reveal two new products: a quarterly forecast of national and state economic activity; and a monthly Alabama index of leading and coincident economic indicators. We hope you will find these new features of value.

Over the past twenty-four months as we worked to restore and improve *Alabama Business*, many of you who recognize the value of *Alabama Business* have suggested that we go to a subscription publication. And while we feel this approach would help considerably in underwriting our publications costs, we wanted to preserve *Alabama Business* as a service publication of the College of Commerce and Business Administration and The University. With both of these points in mind, we have decided to establish a voluntary sponsorship program. *Alabama Business* will continue to be provided as a free service to all who request it. However, we are asking those of you who find *Alabama Business* an important item in your monthly reading program to consider giving us a hand. Please see the enclosed insert.

Again, let me say we are very glad to be back! I hope our absence has not caused you undue difficulty, and we sincerely appreciate your many letters and calls of support and encouragement. We are dedicated to serving you, the people, business, and government of Alabama, and look forward to many more good years together.

Carl E. Ferguson, Jr.
Director

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Alabama Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Several changes were made to those areas in Alabama designated as metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs) on July 1, 1983. These changes will affect the comparability of statistics for the Huntsville and Birmingham MSAs with those of earlier periods, while more information for the Dothan area will now be available as a result of the creation of the Dothan MSA.

Changes in Alabama's MSAs are reflected in the map above. The Huntsville MSA now comprises only Madison County, where previous to July 1, 1983, Limestone and Marshall counties were included in the Huntsville MSA. The Birmingham MSA, which previously contained Jefferson, St. Clair, Shelby, and Walker counties, was expanded to include Blount County.

Dale and Houston counties were combined to form the Dothan MSA. This addition brings the number of MSAs contained wholly within Alabama to nine, and if the Russell County portion of the Columbus, Georgia, MSA is considered the total is ten.

Metropolitan statistical area (standard metropolitan statistical area prior to July 1) designations are made by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget. The general concept of a metropolitan area is one of a large population nucleus, together with adjacent communities which have a high degree of economic and social integration with that nucleus.

Within this publication the retail sales reports for the Huntsville and Birmingham MSAs will be affected.

GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS FOR ALABAMA

Type of Activity	Annual		1982				1983								
	1981	1982	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.
INDUSTRIAL															
Bituminous coal production[1] *(1,000 net tons)*	24,467	25,869	1,936	2,256	2,032	1,644	1,965	1,858	1,914	2,017	1,907	1,759	1,667	2,004	1,937
Natural gas production *(1,000,000 cu. ft.)*	126,885	133,892	10,251	10,223	11,258	11,590	12,165	10,832	11,423	11,429	10,399	10,301	10,189	.....	.....
Cotton consumption *(1,000 lbs.)*	331,792	320,808	28,644	28,749	27,632	26,660	25,851	29,560	33,442	29,988	31,724	32,484	.....	.....	.....
Crude oil and condensate production[2] *(1,000 barrels)*	20,669	20,011	1,549	1,498	1,714	1,742	1,732	1,511	1,603	1,561	1,564	1,525	1,596	.....	.....
Electric energy consumption, industrial purposes *(1,000,000 kwh)*	25,907	21,431	1,686	1,707	1,659	1,499	1,571	1,649	1,621	1,702	1,753	1,797	1,756	1,963	1,892
Pulp, paper, and paperboard production *(1,000 net tons)*	5,153	5,419	436	478	482	406	484	424	517	506	556	564	561	.....	.....
CONSTRUCTION															
Building contracts awarded, new and alterations combined[3] *($1,000)*	1,880,000	2,013,300	198,200	183,000	160,600	170,400	139,500	144,900	253,800	225,500	293,500	327,100	160,400	219,900	242,200
Residential	289,300	847,400	82,800	80,000	83,800	59,100	74,700	70,600	104,500	107,700	123,400	125,700	100,500	101,300	162,200
Nonresidential	659,700	660,800	74,600	45,600	54,700	45,800	47,600	56,000	93,000	74,400	128,000	111,900	45,300	73,300	45,400
Public works and utilities	354,100	505,000	40,900	51,300	22,100	65,500	17,100	18,500	56,400	43,100	41,700	89,300	14,700	45,400	34,400
Cement consumption *(1,000 net tons)*	988	928	91	86	73	71	60	62	92	85	85	116	102	116	.....
FINANCE															
Savings in savings and loan associations[4] *($1,000,000)*	4,451	4,598	4,604	4,587	4,547	4,598	4,668	4,724	4,830	4,951	4,993	5,063	5,096	5,123	5,159
Tax collections *($1,000)*															
Total	2,081,208	2,112,332	186,771	178,990	174,617	154,150	177,787	174,477	189,042	192,932	218,607	189,144	173,150	191,429	219,553
Franchise	48,167	52,016	8,535	4,318	2,255	1,492	443	861	15,688	7,306	1,145	2,777	7,524	2,253	7,300
Gasoline (excl. aviation)	201,271	197,894	17,003	16,229	16,293	15,907	17,274	15,813	14,001	17,681	16,303	17,158	17,252	17,182	17,874
Income	772,011	765,160	60,096	54,510	71,940	49,032	45,667	79,861	76,745	49,511	108,834	80,633	36,785	81,341	81,667
Motor fuels	40,470	41,505	2,719	3,827	5,149	3,448	2,967	3,658	3,049	3,763	3,901	3,136	3,206	4,195	3,383
Oil/gas privilege	42,074	36,891	3,377	3,114	2,805	2,953	4,238	2,964	4,871	5,691	6,447	6,193	5,131	5,298	5,168
Oil/gas production	19,254	18,510	1,725	1,520	1,401	1,468	1,504	1,485	1,808	1,362	1,823	1,541	1,319	1,319	1,331
Sales	543,673	562,208	47,191	45,920	46,451	49,258	56,835	43,331	44,491	48,128	52,546	52,347	51,650	52,961	51,526
2.2% Gross receipts	39,527	44,104	.....	10,724	130	35	10,560	135	147	10,636	110	48	10,738	61	3,548
TVA electric	29,317	35,999	4,998	.....	5,661	2,831	.....	2,831	2,831	5,661	2,831	2,831	2,831	2,831	2,911
Tobacco	70,384	70,885	6,557	5,933	5,698	5,849	6,864	4,692	4,881	5,411	5,599	6,536	6,035	5,426	5,906
Use	66,247	67,876	1,320	14,218	1,372	1,017	14,086	2,039	960	14,062	1,239	816	14,707	1,097	643
Utility	123,790	134,597	11,081	10,695	10,123	16,079	12,180	12,368	13,717	12,152	11,461	10,751	10,617	11,747	12,838
PRICES															
Consumer Price Index, U.S.[5] *(1967 = 100)*															
All items	272.3	288.8	292.8	293.6	293.2	292.0	293.1	293.2	293.4	295.5	297.1	298.1	299.3	300.3	301.8
Food	274.6	285.7	287.6	287.0	286.4	286.5	288.1	289.0	290.5	291.9	292.4	292.0	292.0	292.2	292.6
Housing	293.5	314.7	319.7	320.7	319.0	316.3	317.9	318.5	318.6	320.3	321.8	323.1	324.5	324.8	326.4
Fuel and utilities	319.2	350.8	359.5	363.4	362.2	364.1	365.4	364.6	363.8	363.6	369.3	373.6	375.5	375.1	376.4
Apparel and upkeep	186.9	191.8	194.9	195.5	195.4	193.6	191.0	192.0	194.5	195.5	196.1	195.6	195.0	197.3	200.4
Transportation	280.0	291.5	295.3	295.5	295.8	294.8	293.0	289.9	287.4	292.3	296.2	298.3	300.4	302.4	303.7
Medical care	294.5	328.7	336.0	338.7	342.2	344.3	347.8	351.3	352.3	353.5	354.3	355.4	357.7	360.0	361.2
Energy	410.0	416.0	424.2	425.0	422.6	419.9	414.5	406.7	399.9	410.0	421.3	427.3	430.1	429.8	429.3
Producer Price Index, U.S.[6] *(1967 = 100)*															
All commodities	293.3	299.3	299.3	299.8	300.3	300.7	299.9	300.9	300.6	300.6	301.5	302.5	303.2	304.9	305.3
Industrial commodities	304.0	312.3	312.7	314.3	315.0	315.2	313.9	313.9	313.5	312.4	313.6	315.4	316.6	317.5	317.2
Index of prices received by Alabama farmers *(1977 = 100)*	124.3	115.7	114.0	111.0	113.0	111.0	114.0	118.0	117.0	117.0	120.0	119.0	122.0	126.0	126.0
Purchasing power of the dollar, U.S. *(1967 = $1.000)* As measured by															
Consumer prices	.367	.346	.342	.341	.341	.342	.341	.341	.341	.338	.337	.335	.334	.333	.331
Wholesale prices	.341	.334	.334	.334	.333	.333	.333	.332	.333	.333	.332	.331	.330	.328	.328
LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT[7]															
Civilian labor force *(1,000 workers)*	1,669.0	1,713.0	1,732.3	1,752.3	1,737.9	1,720.2	1,731.5	1,740.4	1,739.8	1,732.7	1,729.4	1,732.2	1,758.3	1,746.2	1,745.3
Unemployment	178.0	247.0	256.6	267.8	268.1	266.9	289.9	284.1	261.9	236.6	225.0	222.2	232.0	214.3	214.5
Unemployment rate	10.7	14.4	14.8	15.3	15.4	15.5	16.7	16.3	15.1	13.7	13.0	12.8	13.2	12.3	12.3
Employment	1,491.0	1,466.0	1,475.7	1,484.5	1,469.8	1,453.3	1,441.6	1,456.3	1,477.9	1,496.1	1,504.4	1,510.0	1,526.3	1,531.9	1,530.8
Nonagricultural	1,347.6	1,315.0	1,306.3	1,309.8	1,312.3	1,310.1	1,301.6	1,302.3	1,303.9	1,309.6	1,312.5	1,319.4	1,319.2	1,311.6	1,314.3
Manufacturing	362.0	337.0	333.1	328.1	326.9	325.6	324.6	325.0	326.5	328.5	329.7	330.4	326.7	[illegible]9	334.6
Durable goods	174.6	158.4	154.2	150.8	151.1	150.3	150.0	150.3	151.1	151.9	152.3	151.4	151.5	154.5	154.6
Lumber and wood products	27.2	25.3	25.7	25.1	25.5	25.7	25.7	25.7	25.9	26.0	26.3	26.6	26.6	26.7	26.9
Stone, clay, glass products	9.6	8.6	8.6	8.6	8.4	8.3	8.2	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.6	8.6	8.7	8.8	8.7
Primary metals	36.6	29.4	26.1	24.7	25.0	24.5	24.7	24.7	24.4	24.8	24.6	24.6	24.1	24.7	24.3
Blast furn. and steel works	13.5	8.8	6.5	5.3	6.0	5.5	5.6	5.8	5.6	5.8	6.0	6.1	5.5	5.7	5.2
Iron and steel foundries	12.4	11.4	11.2	10.7	10.4	10.5	10.6	10.4	10.3	10.6	10.3	10.3	10.4	10.7	10.7
Fabricated metals	25.8	23.0	22.8	22.5	22.6	22.3	22.1	21.7	22.2	22.1	22.2	22.0	22.2	22.5	22.6
Machinery (incl. electrical)	34.7	33.7	33.5	32.8	32.6	32.4	32.4	32.6	32.8	33.1	33.2	33.4	33.5	33.9	33.9
Transportation	23.7	22.4	21.2	21.1	21.0	21.2	21.1	21.3	21.8	21.6	21.4	20.0	20.2	21.8	21.9
Other durable goods	16.9	16.0	16.0	16.0	16.0	15.9	15.8	15.8	15.5	15.8	16.0	16.2	16.2	16.1	16.3
Nondurable goods	187.4	178.6	178.9	177.3	175.8	175.3	174.6	174.7	175.4	176.6	177.4	179.0	175.2	179.4	180.0
Food	27.9	26.7	27.0	26.7	26.7	26.5	26.6	26.3	26.3	26.4	26.4	26.6	26.6	26.7	26.7
Textile mill products	42.1	38.6	38.3	38.0	37.9	37.7	37.3	37.1	37.4	38.1	38.1	38.5	36.7	38.5	39.2
Apparel	54.7	53.2	53.6	53.3	52.8	52.9	52.9	53.6	53.6	53.7	54.3	54.8	53.1	54.7	55.3
Paper and allied products	20.8	20.9	21.1	20.8	20.5	20.8	20.5	20.1	20.5	20.5	20.7	21.2	21.2	21.5	20.9
Printing and publishing	10.1	10.3	10.3	10.3	10.3	10.4	10.2	10.2	10.3	10.3	10.3	10.3	10.3	10.2	10.1
Chemicals and allied products	14.5	13.1	12.6	12.5	12.4	11.9	12.0	11.9	11.9	11.8	11.7	11.7	11.4	11.7	11.7
Rubber products	14.7	13.5	13.7	13.4	12.8	12.9	13.3	13.3	13.2	13.5	13.6	13.6	13.6	13.8	13.8
Other nondurable goods	2.6	2.4	2.3	2.3	2.4	2.2	2.3	2.2	2.2	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3
Nonmanufacturing	985.6	977.9	973.2	981.7	985.4	984.5	977.0	977.3	977.4	981.1	982.8	989.0	992.5	977.7	979.7
Mining and quarrying	15.9	16.5	15.8	15.8	15.9	15.5	15.4	14.7	14.6	14.6	14.6	14.7	14.9	14.8	14.2
Bituminous coal mining	11.2	12.1	11.5	11.5	11.6	11.2	11.1	10.3	10.3	10.2	10.2	10.3	10.5	10.4	9.7
Contract construction	63.9	57.2	58.9	59.5	59.3	58.4	57.5	57.9	58.3	58.8	59.0	60.5	60.4	60.9	61.0
Trans., comm., and utilities	72.2	71.2	68.0	69.7	71.6	70.1	69.9	69.9	70.0	70.3	70.3	70.9	70.7	64.6	70.7
Trade	271.7	267.5	268.1	267.0	268.3	273.2	267.4	265.0	264.5	265.7	266.0	266.2	266.3	266.5	267.2
Wholesale	71.7	70.0	69.9	69.2	68.9	68.8	67.7	68.0	67.8	67.6	68.0	67.9	67.8	67.9	68.0
Retail	200.0	197.5	198.2	197.8	199.4	204.4	199.7	197.0	196.7	198.1	198.0	198.3	198.5	198.6	199.2
Finance, insurance, real estate	59.6	58.8	59.0	58.9	58.8	58.7	58.6	58.5	58.5	58.7	58.9	59.2	59.6	59.6	59.2
Service and miscellaneous	211.2	215.8	217.2	218.4	218.0	218.1	217.9	218.9	219.3	219.6	219.1	218.2	218.1	217.8	217.6
Government	291.3	290.9	286.2	292.4	293.3	290.5	290.3	292.5	292.2	293.4	294.9	299.3	302.5	293.5	289.8
Federal	65.4	65.2	64.4	64.9	64.8	64.7	64.6	64.5	64.6	64.8	64.9	65.6	65.6	65.7	65.1
State and local	225.8	225.7	221.8	227.5	228.5	225.8	225.7	228.0	227.6	228.6	230.0	233.7	236.9	227.8	224.7

GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS FOR ALABAMA—CONTINUED

Type of Activity	Annual		1982				1983								
	1981	1982	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.
LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT—CONT.															
Other employment activity															
State Employment Service (number)															
Job applications	314,801	176,752	16,229	13,161	12,269	10,457	15,331	14,996	18,927	18,139	18,496	21,778	20,987	19,505	.....
Nonagricultural placements	77,868	66,900	4,960	4,626	3,961	3,342	4,253	4,469	6,039	7,233	6,942	10,753	15,126	10,484	.....
Unemployment compensation															
Initial benefit claims *(number)*	487,153	632,290	50,055	45,718	41,857	53,339	77,765	35,542	36,556	30,468	26,892	25,293	49,017	29,803	.....
Payments *($1,000)*	168,760	233,964	20,213	19,663	19,383	25,027	23,232	20,554	21,604	16,669	14,783	14,873	13,217	15,186	.....
County data *(civilian labor force and unemployment rate)*															
Autauga	14,320	15,380	14,760	15,350	15,580	15,670	15,730	15,690	15,550	15,560	15,090	15,030	15,090	15,030	15,200
	9.3	14.7	14.1	17.1	18.6	19.1	19.4	18.0	16.5	16.2	13.2	12.9	12.0	11.3	12.3
Baldwin	32,990	33,640	32,590	33,300	33,660	33,880	34,080	34,090	34,000	33,750	33,700	34,010	34,790	34,140	33,790
	7.7	12.0	11.6	12.6	13.2	14.1	14.3	14.1	12.7	11.5	11.4	10.5	11.6	10.8	11.5
Barbour	11,210	11,410	11,850	12,060	11,670	11,630	11,250	11,300	11,410	11,500	11,380	11,270	11,590	11,550	11,580
	12.4	16.4	13.6	14.5	14.5	15.5	17.4	16.4	15.2	13.9	12.3	12.4	12.0	12.7	11.6
Bibb	5,410	5,640	5,660	5,680	5,600	5,710	5,880	5,840	5,860	5,750	5,670	5,720	5,750	5,240	5,550
	20.2	22.9	24.2	23.3	22.1	27.2	27.1	26.6	23.8	20.5	18.4	17.3	16.8	16.4	18.9
Blount	14,080	14,100	13,890	14,190	13,750	13,700	13,870	14,010	14,010	14,010	13,850	13,570	13,620	13,400	13,580
	11.9	19.7	19.8	20.7	20.4	21.8	23.0	21.3	18.9	17.5	17.2	17.2	17.6	15.2	15.3
Bullock	4,470	4,310	4,590	4,720	4,600	4,440	4,110	4,140	4,160	4,240	4,360	4,360	4,510	4,510	4,670
	16.5	18.5	18.5	19.1	20.9	22.3	21.2	20.5	18.6	15.5	14.6	16.9	19.2	18.4	15.6
Butler	9,840	10,020	10,390	10,420	10,300	10,210	9,770	9,810	9,970	9,700	9,750	9,740	9,930	9,820	9,880
	13.0	20.1	18.3	19.3	21.6	22.4	21.9	21.1	21.2	17.2	16.5	16.7	16.5	15.3	14.3
Calhoun	45,000	45,810	45,130	46,290	45,740	46,110	45,900	46,570	46,560	45,800	45,870	46,230	46,920	46,850	46,420
	11.0	15.0	13.6	14.8	13.3	13.3	15.2	15.6	14.3	12.7	13.2	12.7	12.2	11.5	11.1
Chambers	15,920	16,170	15,450	15,770	15,800	15,840	16,500	16,400	16,360	16,360	16,330	16,600	16,920	16,820	16,470
	7.5	11.4	10.7	11.5	11.6	11.9	12.8	11.4	10.1	9.2	9.0	9.5	10.6	9.4	8.1
Cherokee	11,520	11,300	12,060	12,490	12,540	11,930	10,930	10,820	10,810	11,180	11,340	11,050	10,710	10,550	11,390
	7.2	14.9	12.3	13.5	16.3	14.0	16.7	25.2	22.3	14.7	12.1	12.4	18.5	17.2	10.4
Chilton	12,710	13,480	13,390	13,820	13,610	13,900	14,200	14,130	14,140	14,200	14,260	13,920	14,190	14,240	14,320
	14.7	15.6	16.3	17.3	17.9	19.4	20.0	18.6	16.1	14.5	13.9	12.6	11.9	11.7	11.9
Choctaw	5,160	5,230	5,350	5,380	5,460	5,430	5,380	5,430	5,440	5,590	5,590	5,580	5,870	5,660	5,540
	11.7	15.4	14.2	13.8	15.8	15.1	18.9	16.2	14.3	15.5	15.6	14.8	17.3	13.8	13.0
Clarke	10,110	10,470	10,090	10,010	10,610	10,500	11,110	10,970	10,940	10,590	10,550	10,990	10,940	10,750	10,620
	10.9	15.7	18.8	17.5	22.5	19.0	18.3	19.2	17.9	15.9	15.7	16.9	15.7	14.0	13.6
Clay	7,280	7,460	7,280	7,480	7,540	7,520	7,590	7,550	7,660	7,670	7,760	7,570	7,980	7,780	7,960
	9.1	13.4	13.9	13.7	15.2	15.7	17.0	14.3	13.0	12.1	13.9	13.5	15.5	11.7	11.5
Cleburne	4,900	5,080	5,130	5,370	5,300	5,340	5,170	5,190	5,180	5,170	5,160	5,080	5,090	5,010	5,190
	8.7	14.5	10.2	11.5	11.2	12.8	16.5	16.0	13.9	15.3	12.3	12.3	9.8	9.1	10.3
Coffee	19,050	19,490	17,900	18,830	18,230	18,220	20,160	20,370	20,310	20,320	20,560	20,220	20,480	20,600	20,810
	10.8	11.8	12.6	14.5	12.2	14.5	14.0	13.2	12.4	10.6	10.0	9.2	9.7	9.2	8.9
Colbert	23,110	23,540	22,980	23,180	23,150	23,660	23,980	24,160	24,310	24,010	23,620	23,540	23,960	23,910	23,770
	14.6	19.0	17.8	17.6	17.7	19.7	22.1	21.9	21.1	19.5	17.5	16.7	17.3	16.6	16.5
Conecuh	6,770	6,740	7,200	7,300	7,350	7,370	6,570	6,650	6,910	6,780	6,790	6,760	6,880	6,790	6,830
	11.1	14.0	12.3	12.4	13.4	14.1	13.0	13.2	14.9	13.2	12.1	11.6	11.6	10.9	12.8
Coosa	5,840	5,640	5,720	5,770	5,760	5,740	5,620	5,580	5,580	5,630	5,770	5,490	5,710	5,630	5,770
	7.9	10.7	10.6	10.5	11.0	11.8	12.8	12.0	11.1	10.5	10.6	9.6	10.5	8.9	8.1
Covington	15,270	15,440	15,800	16,350	16,080	16,000	15,630	15,890	15,890	16,110	16,080	16,040	16,370	16,450	16,480
	10.4	13.7	11.7	13.4	12.6	12.7	14.6	14.5	12.9	11.6	10.7	10.0	14.3	12.2	11.5
Crenshaw	6,560	6,690	6,900	7,150	6,800	6,490	6,120	6,220	6,390	6,520	6,700	6,540	6,890	6,650	6,940
	10.0	14.1	10.8	11.8	12.7	12.8	14.1	14.3	13.3	11.7	10.6	11.3	24.4	11.0	10.5
Cullman	26,650	27,480	27,800	28,670	28,090	28,150	27,790	28,600	28,380	28,420	28,500	27,940	28,360	28,030	28,660
	12.4	17.1	16.8	17.6	17.6	19.5	19.8	22.4	16.9	15.0	13.9	13.2	13.5	12.0	12.3
Dale	12,130	12,290	12,100	12,510	12,540	12,690	12,800	12,990	12,920	12,970	12,930	12,610	12,900	12,710	12,650
	12.0	13.2	12.7	13.5	14.3	16.0	16.9	16.2	14.8	13.9	12.9	12.5	13.3	12.2	11.9
Dallas	22,560	23,350	23,580	23,820	23,650	23,620	23,320	23,580	23,400	23,290	23,290	23,680	24,040	23,700	23,540
	12.6	17.6	16.9	17.6	19.8	21.0	21.4	20.6	19.1	18.8	16.5	16.1	16.7	15.6	15.7
DeKalb	27,250	28,460	28,320	28,800	28,650	28,580	29,020	29,090	29,190	29,550	29,470	29,580	30,610	30,420	30,090
	10.3	13.4	12.0	12.9	14.0	15.0	17.0	16.1	14.7	13.9	12.5	12.6	13.7	11.5	12.3
Elmore	19,300	20,280	19,570	19,660	19,600	19,460	19,830	20,000	20,370	20,210	20,280	20,250	20,240	20,270	20,120
	9.4	13.1	12.9	12.9	12.9	12.3	14.0	13.7	14.3	13.2	13.2	13.0	11.7	11.5	10.9
Escambia	15,910	16,330	15,660	15,900	15,980	15,840	16,320	16,940	16,420	16,700	16,700	16,940	17,260	16,750	16,860
	9.8	13.2	12.4	13.2	14.1	13.7	13.7	12.9	12.1	12.6	12.6	12.2	13.0	12.2	11.8
Etowah	41,600	42,740	43,320	43,500	43,580	44,110	43,240	42,920	42,810	41,730	41,600	41,220	41,920	41,800	41,460
	13.0	20.5	20.8	21.8	22.4	23.1	23.9	22.8	21.8	18.0	16.4	15.9	16.1	15.0	14.5
Fayette	10,010	9,880	10,170	10,340	10,400	10,280	9,920	10,120	10,090	10,140	10,040	10,120	10,160	10,220	10,390
	7.8	11.4	10.7	13.1	11.7	11.3	13.5	13.8	13.8	12.8	10.8	9.7	10.8	10.3	10.9
Franklin	12,390	13,350	12,600	12,930	13,000	13,280	13,680	13,690	13,720	13,810	13,780	14,180	14,700	14,430	14,530
	12.9	18.4	15.8	17.4	20.5	23.1	23.5	21.2	19.1	16.4	14.3	15.1	22.8	15.2	16.2
Geneva	10,930	10,910	11,240	11,500	11,300	11,060	10,970	11,130	11,310	11,440	11,750	11,530	11,470	11,830	12,030
	10.1	11.3	9.1	9.0	9.8	11.3	13.3	12.5	11.6	10.0	10.1	9.1	10.1	9.2	8.4
Greene	4,360	4,610	4,510	4,620	4,540	4,510	4,580	4,630	4,790	4,660	4,610	4,560	4,610	4,540	4,660
	13.4	16.9	14.6	15.7	17.3	19.1	21.6	20.6	22.5	16.6	14.6	14.4	14.1	13.3	13.3
Hale	4,830	5,040	4,920	5,060	5,000	4,950	5,060	5,090	5,000	5,030	5,080	5,010	5,340	4,950	5,110
	15.8	20.6	18.2	19.6	19.5	21.3	22.4	20.8	17.7	15.6	14.8	14.5	18.3	13.6	13.7
Henry	7,000	6,990	7,190	7,430	7,220	6,920	6,710	6,800	7,000	7,230	7,400	7,130	7,130	7,050	7,280
	8.0	12.2	11.3	10.7	11.1	11.4	13.3	13.1	12.0	10.8	10.9	11.1	11.8	10.5	10.3
Houston	39,480	38,960	39,600	40,230	40,000	39,820	38,500	38,890	39,290	39,220	39,480	39,340	40,200	39,590	40,280
	7.8	10.0	9.2	10.1	10.8	10.6	11.6	11.6	11.6	10.5	10.7	10.3	11.5	10.1	10.3
Jackson	20,920	21,050	21,190	21,480	21,320	21,170	21,270	21,300	21,220	20,870	20,530	20,140	21,100	20,190	21,120
	12.8	20.4	23.0	23.7	25.0	25.5	27.4	25.9	23.8	21.5	19.2	20.7	22.1	16.8	18.8
Jefferson	299,800	305,740	302,560	307,840	308,870	310,440	310,710	310,140	309,360	305,900	303,490	304,630	309,120	308,210	306,390
	10.6	13.8	15.0	15.8	15.6	15.8	16.3	15.5	14.4	12.8	12.2	11.9	11.7	11.4	11.9
Lamar	7,980	8,390	8,360	8,660	8,360	8,330	8,600	8,750	8,930	9,220	9,280	9,200	9,140	9,090	9,290
	8.2	13.4	17.3	19.2	12.8	12.3	12.3	11.3	10.5	10.2	9.3	9.7	8.8	8.0	8.1
Lauderdale	33,270	34,160	33,580	34,070	33,730	34,150	34,450	34,870	34,660	34,310	34,000	34,450	35,050	34,680	34,620
	12.3	17.6	16.9	17.3	16.6	17.8	19.9	20.0	18.3	16.7	15.3	15.9	16.5	15.0	15.3
Lawrence	12,510	14,250	14,460	14,680	14,620	14,990	15,220	15,190	14,870	14,660	14,290	13,960	13,910	13,670	13,770
	14.6	19.0	17.8	17.8	18.3	21.8	23.8	23.2	20.4	17.6	17.2	17.5	17.6	16.5	16.7
Lee	33,140	34,270	33,010	33,940	33,580	33,860	35,010	35,020	34,730	35,000	35,000	35,160	34,720	34,640	34,880
	6.5	9.4	8.0	9.3	10.6	10.9	13.0	10.7	8.3	7.8	7.7	8.5	8.2	8.0	7.5
Limestone	21,430	22,750	22,330	22,650	23,270	23,100	23,360	23,580	23,430	23,470	23,400	23,090	23,250	23,430	23,700
	10.9	13.7	12.6	12.7	15.5	15.3	15.7	15.8	13.6	12.2	11.0	9.1	8.6	8.7	9.3
Lowndes	4,760	4,990	5,490	5,580	5,390	5,250	4,900	5,070	5,290	5,350	5,430	5,340	5,420	5,380	5,520
	14.3	19.2	18.2	18.4	17.4	17.5	20.0	19.6	19.7	17.4	15.7	16.6	17.0	17.3	16.2
Macon	7,440	7,960	7,540	7,800	7,660	7,590	7,660	7,690	7,680	7,710	7,790	7,790	7,890	7,900	7,770
	10.9	14.7	13.2	13.7	14.1	14.0	15.9	15.2	13.7	12.6	12.8	15.5	14.3	14.3	11.9
Madison	89,880	94,210	93,410	95,020	95,200	94,260	95,070	95,810	96,420	96,670	97,580	98,820	99,130	100,060	100,340
	9.0	10.7	10.6	10.9	11.6	11.1	11.3	11.2	10.1	8.7	8.6	9.0	8.2	8.4	8.3
Marengo	8,970	9,470	9,310	9,560	9,720	9,500	9,690	9,760	9,850	9,800	9,720	9,880	10,200	9,910	9,910
	11.8	15.7	16.2	18.1	20.0	18.0	18.6	18.6	18.0	16.5	15.2	15.4	15.8	12.7	12.3
Marion	12,480	13,240	12,690	13,580	13,120	13,090	13,710	13,710	13,670	13,780	13,740	13,770	14,000	13,670	13,600
	15.2	18.4	17.4	25.3	21.3	20.8	23.6	21.7	21.2	19.9	18.9	18.7	19.2	16.7	16.4
Marshall	31,100	32,900	32,960	33,840	33,290	33,240	33,500	33,610	33,690	33,670	33,560	34,020	36,170	34,150	34,500
	12.4	14.8	15.6	16.6	15.7	16.0	16.1	15.7	14.3	12.7	11.5	12.0	16.2	10.6	11.1
Mobile	156,490	159,880	158,610	160,700	161,260	161,850	163,250	164,410	164,450	165,690	163,990	166,470	168,060	167,440	164,000
	9.6	14.0	15.6	15.8	15.9	16.5	16.9	17.2	16.1	16.2	15.4	15.1	15.0	15.4	15.3

GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS FOR ALABAMA—CONTINUED

Type of Activity	Annual		1982				1983								
	1981	1982	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.
LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT—CONT.															
County data *(civilian labor force and unemployment rate)* —continued															
Monroe	10,010	10,250	10,350	10,490	10,450	10,970	10,200	10,300	10,430	10,580	10,500	10,550	10,700	10,700	10,720
	12.0	14.3	12.0	12.6	13.7	20.6	13.8	13.2	12.6	13.1	13.0	11.5	11.4	11.0	11.2
Montgomery	87,220	89,890	86,970	87,610	87,820	87,610	88,130	89,040	89,500	88,630	88,520	89,420	90,480	90,370	90,710
	9.0	10.9	11.0	11.3	11.8	11.6	12.1	11.7	11.4	10.1	9.7	10.6	10.3	9.9	10.2
Morgan	36,610	37,400	37,070	37,620	37,910	37,980	37,450	37,140	37,010	36,800	37,140	37,420	37,980	37,640	37,550
	11.4	16.1	15.1	15.8	17.4	17.6	18.8	17.3	15.8	14.5	13.8	13.5	13.5	13.1	13.4
Perry	5,440	5,200	5,450	5,640	5,540	5,570	5,630	5,580	5,680	5,660	5,800	5,800	5,920	5,910	5,890
	11.5	16.9	14.7	16.9	17.5	24.4	19.7	15.5	14.2	14.0	13.2	13.7	13.1	13.0	11.9
Pickens	7,670	7,620	7,590	7,640	7,600	7,580	7,640	7,730	7,940	7,910	7,990	7,900	7,970	7,780	7,800
	15.9	19.6	16.6	17.3	17.1	18.3	17.3	17.6	19.2	20.2	19.3	18.1	16.1	14.7	14.2
Pike	13,230	13,230	13,020	13,950	13,750	13,400	13,520	13,720	13,740	13,760	13,960	13,760	13,920	13,820	14,070
	10.0	13.4	12.0	12.3	13.5	17.4	17.7	16.8	14.4	12.5	12.6	12.6	13.7	12.5	11.9
Randolph	9,110	9,670	9,530	9,830	9,720	9,460	9,360	9,120	8,700	8,750	8,640	8,420	9,040	8,550	8,470
	10.8	21.8	21.6	23.6	24.7	24.9	25.7	22.5	18.7	17.2	18.0	16.8	24.1	16.4	13.6
Russell	17,310	18,050	17,250	17,670	17,970	17,990	18,090	18,090	17,920	17,500	17,480	17,730	17,980	18,010	17,690
	12.2	16.7	16.5	16.9	17.7	17.0	17.9	17.5	15.9	14.0	13.6	11.8	12.0	11.2	12.2
St. Clair	18,570	18,970	18,160	18,430	18,770	18,990	19,410	19,620	19,560	19,230	18,970	18,770	18,870	18,870	18,970
	11.3	14.7	13.1	13.7	14.8	15.5	17.8	18.0	16.9	14.9	13.8	12.2	11.2	11.1	12.7
Shelby	29,150	29,910	29,240	29,430	29,560	30,490	30,260	30,230	30,210	29,820	30,100	29,810	30,340	30,360	30,190
	9.2	13.0	13.2	13.0	12.9	15.3	15.2	14.4	13.4	11.7	12.6	11.1	11.2	11.1	11.7
Sumter	6,820	6,970	7,070	7,130	7,100	7,160	7,150	7,150	7,250	7,240	7,340	7,410	7,470	7,350	7,280
	13.0	17.4	17.4	16.6	16.0	16.5	17.2	15.7	16.1	14.2	12.0	14.3	15.0	12.8	16.3
Talladega	29,480	30,630	31,120	30,900	30,930	31,260	31,230	31,220	30,980	30,530	30,570	30,180	30,400	30,380	30,090
	13.5	19.3	23.7	19.9	20.5	20.6	21.5	21.3	19.8	17.2	17.2	17.0	16.9	16.9	16.0
Tallapoosa	16,420	17,250	16,790	16,850	16,960	16,980	17,330	17,240	17,360	17,070	17,110	17,650	18,230	17,810	17,550
	8.4	13.3	11.9	11.6	12.3	11.8	13.7	12.4	13.6	10.2	11.1	11.0	13.9	10.9	9.5
Tuscaloosa	55,160	55,380	53,060	55,110	54,890	55,140	56,030	56,800	56,320	55,690	55,910	54,990	55,610	55,830	55,600
	10.3	12.6	11.3	12.1	11.4	12.1	14.5	15.2	13.5	11.9	12.5	12.3	11.9	11.6	11.1
Walker	31,510	31,720	31,440	32,100	31,420	32,180	32,420	32,690	32,500	32,360	32,330	32,080	32,690	32,580	32,450
	13.0	15.1	16.4	17.4	15.2	16.9	18.0	18.0	16.6	15.7	15.7	14.4	14.6	14.2	14.9
Washington	6,030	6,260	6,250	6,340	6,330	6,260	6,430	6,320	6,430	6,480	6,520	6,640	6,810	6,560	6,750
	13.0	16.8	16.8	16.8	18.5	19.8	22.5	21.1	20.0	20.5	20.0	19.6	20.6	17.4	17.2
Wilcox	4,840	5,170	5,610	5,710	6,110	5,510	5,410	5,420	5,440	5,410	5,290	5,220	5,260	5,210	5,360
	12.6	22.6	23.9	24.1	34.0	25.6	25.5	28.0	26.6	26.2	21.3	20.6	19.0	18.4	19.4
Winston	8,310	8,450	8,650	8,870	8,700	8,520	8,480	8,780	8,500	8,340	8,280	8,210	8,320	8,250	8,310
	16.5	22.6	23.2	24.9	23.2	23.9	25.7	27.6	22.1	18.8	17.3	17.2	17.8	17.1	16.3
TRADE															
Foreign, through Port of Mobile															
Imports															
Value *($1,000)*	727,078	551,093	60,169	43,393	56,588	26,764	68,870	42,897	39,541	61,067	72,807	49,281	33,162	70,692	.....
Shipping weight *(1,000,000 lbs.)*	16,032	8,142	902	629	709	591	447	370	308	651	560	353	343	819	.....
Exports															
Value *($1,000)*	1,430,730	1,222,158	77,232	86,681	122,662	99,164	78,730	80,453	68,176	81,973	60,503	71,690	51,007	33,212	.....
Shipping weight *(1,000,000 lbs.)*	14,210	14,577	1,170	1,046	1,241	1,269	1,133	1,057	757	1,061	898	1,150	610	344	.....
Shipments by water, Port of Mobile[8] *(1,000 tons)*	37,649	39,655	2,897	3,401	3,259	3,050	3,030	2,695	2,574	3,193	3,051	3,268	2,560	3,013	2,812
Domestic															
Electric energy consumption, non-industrial purposes *(1,000,000 kwh)*	22,713	22,680	2,247	1,799	1,616	1,762	1,995	1,998	1,668	1,650	1,490	1,678	2,149	2,571	2,547
Gasoline sales[9] *(1,000 gallons)*	1,849,225	1,840,396	151,115	151,929	148,040	161,810	147,757	132,674	163,666	150,978	158,764	.....	.....	.....	.....
New passenger car registrations[10] *(number)*	112,051	100,717	9,015	8,091	9,441	9,205	8,018	8,462	9,326	9,544	11,620	10,660	11,039	10,012	.....
Retail sales by kind of business, state totals[11] *($1,000,000)*															
Food	3,580	3,634	310	313	302	324	291	290	309	323	329	343	363	344	321
General stores with food and gas	319	331	28	30	27	28	25	24	28	29	32	32	33	32	28
General merchandise	2,190	2,292	178	190	231	312	123	150	192	204	171	163	192	201	183
Apparel	486	499	39	41	43	69	33	32	46	45	44	42	41	47	46
Furniture, furnishings, etc	527	534	41	43	46	55	40	41	49	49	53	55	56	60	54
Automotive	2,570	2,690	226	218	234	226	208	224	285	294	315	338	345	361	345
Gasoline service stations	1,384	1,342	110	114	109	106	93	88	101	101	116	120	123	122	112
Lumber and building materials	844	778	70	69	66	61	55	57	75	78	92	98	103	119	113
Hardware and farm implements	384	351	30	30	30	30	23	24	34	34	39	42	41	42	42
Eating places	1,043	1,112	92	97	92	98	82	87	100	99	104	104	109	110	96
Drug stores	458	535	41	42	41	50	36	45	46	47	48	42	45	47	44
All other retail	2,445	2,436	192	195	199	256	177	177	221	219	256	269	259	286	262
Total sales by retail concerns	16,230	16,532	1,356	1,383	1,420	1,616	1,185	1,239	1,485	1,522	1,598	1,650	1,710	1,771	1,647
Nonretail and unclassified concerns	4,514	4,752	405	403	390	400	348	331	403	381	418	429	409	418	466
Total all sales at retail	20,744	21,284	1,761	1,785	1,811	2,017	1,533	1,570	1,889	1,903	2,016	2,079	2,120	2,189	2,113
Retail sales, Metropolitan Statistical Areas and counties[11] *($1,000)*															
MSAs															
Anniston	423,025	431,787	37,040	38,000	36,261	40,978	30,595	31,503	38,013	38,205	39,878	43,188	50,369	51,904	49,235
Birmingham	5,494,855	5,607,320	466,273	468,593	474,170	535,365	407,612	416,465	508,121	514,189	536,329	555,849	563,748	598,551	598,791
Dothan	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	70,304	72,703	73,716
Florence	556,594	478,720	33,189	32,420	33,616	35,395	31,901	31,589	37,482	38,048	42,026	44,750	55,328	58,158	54,222
Gadsden	436,613	631,540	70,654	69,873	73,725	79,708	64,046	65,760	77,023	76,972	87,272	93,812	111,105	121,028	116,235
Huntsville	1,260,399	1,705,007	168,920	175,536	175,690	198,822	162,619	158,271	189,122	195,216	209,563	219,757	260,118	266,152	220,194
Mobile	2,233,905	1,685,619	100,721	101,461	105,418	117,205	90,905	94,165	110,856	115,055	123,074	129,046	147,047	155,686	145,252
Montgomery	1,194,774	879,373	47,185	47,602	47,404	53,034	43,285	41,589	49,621	51,174	52,837	57,549	63,796	68,815	65,707
Tuscaloosa	546,744	538,292	44,127	44,275	44,854	50,621	40,680	40,078	48,564	51,046	52,729	54,758	64,904	67,963	58,852
Counties															
Autauga	107,817	107,927	9,241	8,603	8,868	9,384	7,820	8,284	9,694	9,681	10,339	10,986	10,026	9,763	8,125
Baldwin	374,226	366,715	28,204	28,868	27,634	29,025	25,356	25,516	31,844	32,677	37,082	39,406	48,968	48,859	33,562
Barbour	65,935	62,778	4,778	5,426	5,474	5,470	4,481	4,545	5,133	5,493	6,561	5,657	7,004	6,853	6,403
Bibb	27,206	27,761	2,220	2,372	2,306	2,944	2,134	1,988	2,305	2,381	2,466	2,641	4,016	4,120	3,670
Blount	83,509	80,384	6,654	6,494	6,292	6,778	5,994	5,951	6,873	6,576	7,086	7,553	8,712	9,195	9,071
Bullock	30,211	59,766	5,878	5,925	5,604	6,349	5,980	5,761	2,346	2,873	2,715	2,810	3,178	2,827	2,896
Butler	65,054	61,385	4,862	5,262	5,162	5,976	4,913	4,716	5,289	5,364	5,922	6,017	7,557	7,576	7,107
Calhoun	423,025	431,787	37,040	38,000	36,261	40,978	30,595	31,503	38,013	38,205	39,878	43,188	50,369	51,904	49,235
Chambers	94,277	91,694	7,660	7,851	7,896	8,054	7,121	6,980	8,411	8,579	9,081	9,258	11,983	11,746	11,389
Cherokee	55,069	55,015	5,075	5,586	5,147	4,784	3,791	4,018	4,596	4,797	4,987	5,450	6,364	5,152	4,907
Chilton	85,151	92,523	7,522	7,839	7,626	7,677	6,857	6,658	8,411	9,034	9,563	9,818	11,064	11,078	10,210
Choctaw	49,651	50,696	4,189	4,433	4,191	4,464	3,902	3,592	4,141	4,220	4,392	4,106	4,695	4,647	4,223
Clarke	90,980	89,267	6,996	7,635	7,504	8,101	6,884	6,688	7,795	8,463	8,494	8,571	10,571	10,056	8,511
Clay	26,767	26,956	2,266	2,315	2,220	2,525	2,041	2,004	2,185	2,433	2,072	2,334	2,636	2,751	2,245
Cleburne	22,776	24,342	1,878	2,148	2,293	2,290	2,013	1,982	2,368	2,568	2,587	2,671	2,630	2,468	2,526
Coffee	139,979	142,532	11,416	12,549	12,033	12,842	10,981	11,476	13,642	13,968	15,283	15,111	18,171	18,207	16,993

GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS FOR ALABAMA—CONTINUED

Type of Activity	Annual		1982				1983								
	1981	1982	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.
TRADE—CONTINUED															
Retail sales, MSAs and counties—continued															
Counties—continued															
Colbert	285,137	296,569	25,282	24,863	24,833	25,568	21,822	21,916	25,857	28,078	27,840	29,752	32,979	34,574	33,124
Conecuh	37,804	34,109	2,767	2,886	2,850	2,896	2,310	2,632	2,968	3,327	3,447	3,364	4,262	4,393	3,852
Coosa	22,333	20,855	1,754	1,946	1,622	1,846	1,500	1,577	1,725	1,534	1,858	1,834	1,890	2,036	1,799
Covington	136,198	140,600	11,740	11,890	10,819	12,200	9,874	10,147	12,340	13,201	13,890	14,065	15,439	15,980	14,806
Crenshaw	33,792	32,419	2,589	2,675	2,685	2,636	2,407	2,622	2,837	3,214	3,289	3,430	3,451	3,405	3,170
Cullman	253,646	248,888	20,779	21,358	20,483	20,836	18,638	17,236	21,491	23,443	23,959	25,646	28,251	28,440	26,802
Dale	93,394	97,446	7,891	7,977	7,636	8,814	7,170	6,842	8,289	8,851	9,810	9,795	11,294	11,441	10,079
Dallas	210,054	188,352	15,656	16,002	15,378	16,686	12,984	12,973	15,508	16,700	18,393	19,081	22,293	23,395	20,494
DeKalb	169,062	171,631	14,543	15,072	14,066	15,216	11,959	12,004	14,442	15,427	16,703	17,793	20,033	20,153	18,693
Elmore	87,830	82,262	6,549	6,927	6,504	6,985	5,690	5,260	6,853	7,367	7,751	7,747	10,666	10,392	9,277
Escambia	138,098	133,511	10,953	11,212	11,943	12,888	10,238	10,210	12,646	12,703	13,663	14,031	15,286	15,566	14,386
Etowah	436,613	395,868	33,189	32,420	33,616	35,396	31,901	31,589	37,482	38,048	42,026	44,750	55,328	58,158	54,222
Fayette	87,645	85,349	7,623	6,493	6,668	8,235	6,419	6,144	7,627	7,436	7,809	8,014	7,241	7,451	6,989
Franklin	92,420	88,033	7,178	7,581	7,130	7,551	6,023	6,209	7,618	8,361	9,067	9,295	11,193	10,659	10,490
Geneva	134,459	148,372	12,373	12,481	12,562	13,053	12,536	11,895	12,848	13,497	18,532	17,552	14,092	14,417	13,524
Greene	22,753	21,917	1,766	1,879	1,885	1,939	1,412	1,395	1,803	1,722	2,254	2,165	2,334	2,027	2,034
Hale	36,129	35,115	3,020	3,105	2,828	3,191	2,409	2,631	2,988	3,182	3,330	3,848	4,211	3,953	4,053
Henry	45,233	40,210	3,153	3,300	3,359	3,452	2,779	2,767	3,403	3,884	3,990	3,941	3,926	3,565	3,936
Houston	442,988	430,944	36,236	36,298	37,218	41,807	33,510	33,236	40,275	42,195	42,919	44,963	53,610	56,522	48,773
Jackson	154,603	147,971	12,097	12,641	11,341	[illegible]31	9,452	10,588	12,855	12,593	13,900	15,019	17,404	17,807	16,597
Jefferson	4,861,688	4,914,513	406,251	408,333	414,843	472,004	352,252	361,354	441,173	443,486	460,942	479,580	479,267	513,560	516,391
Lamar	37,002	37,354	2,755	3,018	2,870	4,159	2,847	2,568	3,025	3,269	3,684	3,610	3,782	4,116	3,951
Lauderdale	271,457	274,888	22,402	21,924	23,846	30,688	19,045	20,023	25,297	26,297	26,973	27,891	37,325	38,129	40,592
Lawrence	63,483	64,612	5,295	5,213	5,398	5,579	4,652	4,238	5,382	5,907	6,454	7,014	7,693	7,468	6,833
Lee	308,421	291,626	26,168	24,571	24,629	26,086	20,929	22,550	26,929	27,130	29,445	30,856	33,933	35,372	35,761
Limestone	147,969	148,123	12,141	12,801	12,477	13,292	10,344	10,371	13,412	13,854	14,031	15,399	18,290	18,202	17,450
Lowndes	23,213	23,153	1,979	2,038	1,893	2,037	1,622	1,557	1,793	1,997	2,128	1,847	2,204	2,096	1,853
Macon	45,438	42,696	3,604	3,418	3,200	3,138	2,882	3,050	3,494	3,957	4,343	4,452	5,580	5,265	4,764
Madison	838,433	859,667	70,654	69,873	73,725	79,708	64,046	65,760	77,023	76,972	87,272	93,812	111,105	121,028	116,235
Marengo	85,699	87,042	6,911	6,920	8,096	7,867	6,324	6,212	8,064	8,705	7,059	8,554	8,842	8,975	7,458
Marion	68,640	69,720	5,839	6,184	5,750	6,441	5,540	5,129	6,256	6,829	7,422	7,689	9,420	9,108	9,489
Marshall	273,997	267,961	21,925	22,330	21,612	24,348	19,349	20,189	24,855	26,811	29,027	29,423	35,785	37,887	36,065
Mobile	1,859,679	1,764,926	140,716	146,668	148,056	169,796	137,263	132,755	157,278	162,539	172,481	180,351	211,150	217,293	186,632
Monroe	94,613	103,747	9,902	10,467	11,375	8,675	7,364	7,834	9,403	9,944	10,210	10,359	11,160	12,484	12,112
Montgomery	999,127	1,034,457	84,931	85,931	90,046	100,836	77,395	79,621	94,309	98,007	104,984	110,313	128,355	135,531	127,850
Morgan	480,257	476,556	38,963	36,375	36,667	41,830	34,194	35,572	46,780	47,195	52,760	48,768	54,146	58,346	56,301
Perry	30,104	28,382	2,449	2,433	2,315	2,375	1,949	1,974	2,163	2,431	2,554	2,433	2,587	2,614	2,819
Pickens	55,550	51,737	4,135	4,339	4,380	4,713	3,836	3,557	4,440	5,119	5,574	5,223	5,757	5,443	4,828
Pike	88,946	83,788	6,839	7,648	6,672	7,230	5,631	6,066	7,687	8,559	9,530	8,556	9,704	10,742	10,848
Randolph	55,212	54,925	4,575	4,642	4,769	5,473	4,376	4,483	5,396	5,139	5,397	5,248	5,808	5,797	5,998
Russell	92,012	95,484	8,244	7,812	7,780	8,843	6,991	7,378	8,713	9,235	9,910	10,052	11,720	12,599	11,223
St. Clair	105,105	105,453	8,929	8,653	8,825	9,141	8,237	9,111	11,023	12,339	13,493	14,144	15,714	14,968	13,763
Shelby	262,248	261,472	22,379	22,076	21,569	22,598	19,313	18,476	24,021	26,070	27,655	28,841	26,149	27,212	26,688
Sumter	35,672	34,465	2,750	2,963	2,551	3,183	2,474	2,552	2,844	3,017	3,077	3,170	3,367	3,454	3,213
Talladega	227,798	219,173	17,468	17,433	17,778	19,303	16,906	16,114	19,218	19,381	22,851	21,493	26,023	25,377	23,792
Tallapoosa	125,921	122,749	10,194	10,848	10,422	11,435	9,348	9,634	11,180	12,074	12,715	13,274	14,408	14,228	14,744
Tuscaloosa	546,744	552,075	47,185	47,602	47,404	53,034	43,285	41,589	49,621	51,174	52,837	57,549	63,796	68,815	65,707
Walker	265,814	286,943	23,060	23,037	22,951	24,844	21,816	21,573	25,031	25,716	27,153	25,731	33,906	33,616	32,878
Washington	32,035	29,920	2,424	2,437	2,372	2,440	2,215	2,029	2,688	2,253	2,410	2,289	2,295	2,327	2,204
Wilcox	33,877	35,627	2,989	3,182	2,910	3,095	2,586	2,727	3,121	3,108	3,183	3,151	3,434	3,505	3,148
Winston	65,605	64,854	5,256	5,259	5,157	5,263	4,440	4,495	5,502	5,864	6,102	6,660	7,543	8,070	7,143
Statewide[11]	3,600,377	4,186,052	349,982	358,517	376,659	426,413	271,209	296,816	356,512	326,657	339,748	341,723	188,221	174,019	206,611
BUILDING ACTIVITY[12]															
Alabama total															
Building permits *($1,000)*															
Total	832,986	712,696	61,540	49,361	49,714	68,161	53,990	51,306	84,232	72,068	108,222	72,677	93,959	120,500	96,165
Residential	295,838	237,082	30,441	21,960	18,975	18,021	25,652	25,793	43,724	40,009	47,803	32,005	39,580	47,066	34,835
Nonresidential	280,294	300,343	22,117	14,269	19,385	40,757	16,129	16,272	20,153	17,120	34,301	20,565	28,714	35,834	29,816
In selected cities															
Anniston															
Building permits *($1,000)*															
Total	8,062	5,965	478	489	362	422	439	445	674	791	850	905	826	895	794
Residential	3,089	2,700	219	239	250	239	269	271	417	312	341	346	306	309	263
Nonresidential	1,819	442	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	112	98	112	92	124	106
Birmingham															
Building permits *($1,000)*															
Total	152,970	109,048	11,114	4,789	6,510	28,748	10,220	2,369	11,394	5,671	23,569	8,012	7,729	14,059	30,767
Residential	31,815	13,918	1,525	1,044	565	845	495	660	7,607	977	9,643	1,221	1,378	1,317	2,529
Nonresidential	34,576	61,839	5,917	820	2,628	27,027	7,013	1,133	1,580	1,098	2,177	1,911	1,855	7,416	12,498
Decatur															
Building permits *($1,000)*															
Total	18,046	8,551	748	767	652	716	648	1,826	1,129	1,073	1,154	1,235	1,167	1,367	1,424
Residential	6,447	2,937	208	191	190	170	230	152	307	713	722	770	741	918	995
Nonresidential	10,157	3,812	329	383	285	388	272	70	603	123	163	177	150	155	156
Dothan															
Building permits *($1,000)*															
Total	17,578	28,821	456	944	1,870	2,206	1,299	841	2,162	899	695	1,073	1,388	1,340	700
Residential	4,982	5,626	214	184	289	450	458	450	884	568	326	475	350	366	316
Nonresidential	4,394	9,720	46	128	1,359	1,217	345	88	973	230	59	176	468	319	40
Gadsden															
Building permits *($1,000)*															
Total	8,035	10,429	955	841	468	1,137	1,359	254	981	395	1,351	529	4,695	354	549
Residential	1,166	1,517	45	84	71	77	23	83	271	41	273	194	170	282	234
Nonresidential	819	3,271	159	40	303	435	181	5	53	2	378	271	161	2	271
Huntsville															
Building permits *($1,000)*															
Total	56,466	58,302	14,389	3,913	3,031	3,546	3,561	4,819	6,213	5,583	15,688	10,765	12,423	17,391	8,823
Residential	10,571	18,311	3,915	2,490	1,732	1,236	2,365	3,170	3,240	1,935	4,390	3,263	9,556	7,145	2,171
Nonresidential	32,638	14,238	966	383	809	630	542	550	1,874	1,766	10,068	5,693	669	6,403	5,166
Mobile															
Building permits *($1,000)*															
Total	95,890	83,675	7,370	3,523	9,570	4,881	5,796	8,908	9,046	8,756	14,828	3,923	14,352	13,411	5,161
Residential	21,398	19,544	3,270	1,203	668	1,051	2,256	7,068	2,489	6,816	4,337	1,334	1,132	1,810	1,127
Nonresidential	48,281	43,701	1,365	1,250	7,596	2,751	2,202	805	3,737	973	9,064	664	11,007	10,337	1,465

GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS FOR ALABAMA—CONTINUED

Type of Activity	Annual		1982				1983								
	1981	1982	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.
BUILDING ACTIVITY —CONTINUED															
Montgomery															
Building permits ($1,000)															
Total	49,867	52,352	6,701	2,036	4,017	2,861	4,057	3,297	7,692	10,648	7,877	6,777	6,275	6,829	6,315
Residential	14,560	15,363	3,792	1,117	1,607	1,363	2,492	2,061	4,125	4,797	3,407	2,568	2,473	2,354	2,081
Nonresidential	16,266	22,178	174	531	1,815	960	487	489	1,940	5,301	3,265	2,542	2,205	2,762	2,652
Quad-Cities[13]															
Building permits ($1,000)															
Total	29,011	18,563	1,425	2,333	1,236	781	798	858	977	718	1,247	1,244	1,612	1,361	1,250
Residential	11,429	7,481	571	912	1,027	780	668	502	711	341	451	640	473	513	623
Nonresidential	8,453	5,722	61	1,141	3	.....	56	340	45	246	176	261	737	705	380
Selma															
Building permits ($1,000)															
Total	4,546	2,757	364	1,158	72	25	248	1,049	105	184	635	115	336	103	901
Residential	1,027	987	100	200	25	.....	8	.....	25	63	125	30	.....	20	.....
Nonresidential	1,029	1,739	127	871	10	6	.....	18	22	19	384	10	275	20	18
Tuscaloosa															
Building permits ($1,000)															
Total	17,343	21,418	2,990	1,351	1,023	771	2,323	1,869	3,672	1,458	3,023	3,600	2,862	3,340	3,777
Residential	4,956	6,592	211	591	301	427	590	1,402	2,697	850	1,674	1,205	2,338	1,194	1,378
Nonresidential	6,617	8,408	2,224	336	41	135	1,509	209	84	187	424	569	187	1,221	711

NOTE: Throughout this table, details do not necessarily add to totals due to rounding. [1]Estimated total for calendar month based on adjustment of weekly data. [2]Individual months may not add to annual totals due to late revisions in annual data. [3]These data may not be reused in any manner without the express permission of F. W. Dodge Div., McGraw-Hill Information Co. [4]End-of-month balance. [5]Beginning January 1978, the Consumer Price Index consists of "All Urban Consumers." Prior to that date, it included only "Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers." Historical data will not be available due to the change in coverage. No "Energy" data are available prior to 1978, and "Housing" data prior to January 1978 are not comparable to the new "Housing" series due to a change in definition. [6]These data were previously presented as the "Wholesale Price Index." The new title more accurately reflects the coverage of the data. [7]Civilian labor force, unemployment, and total employment are adjusted by place of residence, and total nonagricultural employment and its components are by place of work. Annual data are monthly averages. All 1982 data are adjusted to a March 1982 benchmark; all 1981 data are adjusted to a 1981 benchmark. [8]Includes both inbound and outbound shipments by water moving through private facilities as well as through the Alabama State Docks; excludes tonnage for military installations. [9]Excludes sales to federal government. [10]These data may not be reused in any manner without the express permission of R. L. Polk and Company. [11]Retail sales data represent sales at retail as reported to the Alabama Department of Revenue under the definition of the Alabama Sales Tax Law. Total sales figures include sales at retail by wholesalers and other nonretail firms as well as retail concerns. Sales at retail thus defined should not be confused with all sales (including nonretail sales) by retail concerns as reported in the *Census of Retail Trade*. **Monthly sales figures are preliminary and subject to revision on a continuing basis. Sales figure for the two latest months are normally low because they do not yet include data from late reporters. Retail sales historical data prior to 1977 are not available for the new series. Birmingham and Huntsville MSA sales data after June 1983 are not directly comparable with earlier data because county designations were changed. The "Statewide" category in the "County" section provides sales figures which are not attributable to individual counties; it does not represent a state total.** [12]Private construction only. May be partially estimated by the Bureau of the Census; the sum of monthly figures may not equal annual total. "Total" construction includes additions and alterations, therefore, is not a sum of residential and nonresidential. [13]Quad-Cities consists of Florence, Muscle Shoals, Sheffield, and Tuscumbia.

Changes to *Alabama Business* Data Tables Reviewed

Readers should note that several changes in the items presented in *Alabama Business*'s data tables have occurred since our last appearance. In some cases these changes resulted because items were no longer available or had lost economic importance, while others were changed in order to present a more complete picture of Alabama's economy.

A summary of the changes follows:

—Under the Industrial heading, cement shipments, coke production, pig iron production, steel ingot production, and the steel ingot production index were deleted. Natural gas production was added.

—Under the Financial heading, life insurance sales was deleted. Oil and gas tax and oil production privilege tax were added.

—Under the Trade heading, Dothan was added to the Metropolitan Statistical Areas for which retail sales are reported. Note other changes in the MSAs enumerated on Page 2 which will affect retail trade reports.

Note to Librarians

This is the first issue of *Alabama Business* to appear since Vol. 52, No. 3 (December 1981). The intervening numbers will not be published. Please check your holdings.

Alabama Business is a monthly publication of the Center for Business and Economic Research of The University of Alabama College of Commerce and Business Administration. Articles reflect the opinions of the authors, but not necessarily those of the staff of the Center, the faculty of the College of Commerce and Business Administration, or the administrative officials of The University of Alabama.

alabama business

College of Commerce and Business Administration
Herbert H. "Bill" Mitchell, *Dean*

Center for Business and Economic Research
Carl E. Ferguson, Jr., *Director*

Ed Rutledge, *Associate Director & Manager, State Data Center*
David C. Cheng, *Research Economist*
Lawrence B. Durham, *Research Associate Professor*
Deborah Hamilton, *Research Associate*
Annette Watters, *Research Associate*
Steve Fowler, *Research Associate & Editor*
Carolyn Trent, *Research Associate*
Darren Evans-Young, *Programmer*
Carroll Greenhill, *Research Assistant*
Kathryn Rivers, *Research Assistant*
Judy Burchfield, *Staff Assistant*
Taylor E. Little, Jr., *Graduate Research Assistant*
Sandy Cromer, *Supervisor, Word Processing*
Linda Orr, *Research Clerk*
Martha Shirley, *Research Clerk*

The Economy in Perspective

Alabama: Recession, Recovery and Structural Changes

By the end of the third quarter of 1983, there were strong signs indicating a recovery was under way in Alabama. The 1983 unemployment rate declined steadily from the peak of 16.7 percent in January to 12.1 percent in September. Total employment in the first nine months of 1983 bounced back from the same period in 1982. In the third quarter of 1983, employment averaged 1,529,000 as compared to 1,471,700 in the same period of 1982, a 3.9 percent increase. Beginning in December 1982, initial unemployment benefits claims began to decline over the same month in the prior year.

The eight metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs) in Alabama (as defined prior to July 1983) accounted for 61.7 percent of the total labor force in August 1983. These are the "economic centers" of the state. Among the state's MSAs, Huntsville MSA had the lowest unemployment rate in August 1983 (8.9 percent) and Florence and Gadsden MSAs had the highest (15.6 percent and 15.0 percent respectively.) The latter two MSAs reflect the economic drawback of communities depending too heavily on one company (the Ford Aluminum plant for Florence and the Republic Steel plant for Gadsden). From August 1982 to August 1983, total employment in Alabama increased by 63,400. The eight MSAs accounted for 56.88 percent of this increase. Huntsville is the only MSA which experienced an employment increase throughout the latest recession, from 129,150 in 1979 to 131, 760 in 1982.

There is also clear evidence that construction activity is on the increase. The number as well as the value of building permits in 1983 has increased substantially over 1982 levels. The number of permits issued for May-July 1983 was 4,917, reflecting a 114 percent increase from the number of permits issued in the same period last year. Permit values increased from $195 million to $274 million.

The new-car registration figures reflect stronger consumer confidence after November 1982 when the rate of change as compared with the same month in the prior year turned consistently upward. The pickup in consumer spending is also confirmed by state sales tax collections. In the first nine months of 1983, sales tax receipts increased by 5.5 percent from the same period in 1982.

During the inter-recession years, the employment share of the Alabama manufacturing sector changed from 28.2 percent of total employment in 1976 to 27.5 percent in 1979. As a result of the recession, this share declined futher to 25.4 percent by August 1983. The employment shares of the subsectors durable and nondurable goods manufacturing changed from 12.9 percent and 15.3 percent respectively in 1976 to 13.7 percent and 13.8 percent respectively in 1979 and to 11.8 percent and 13.7 percent respectively by August 1983. Within durable manufacturing, the once dominant primary metal, blast furnace and basic steel producers, iron and steel foundries, and fabricated metal industries lost their combined employment shares from 8.0 percent in 1976 to 7.4 percent in 1979 and then to 4.8 percent by August 1983.

From the last quarter of 1979 to the last quarter of 1982 (the bottom of the recession), Alabama experienced a loss of 54,300 wage and salary jobs. The breakdown of the loss for durable and nondurable manufacturing industries was 29,900 and 8,500 respectively. Within the durable sector, the primary metal and lumber and wood products industries suffered the most; 18,500 and 3,400 jobs lost respectively. Within the nondurable sector, textile and chemical industries suffered the most; 5,500 and 3,300 jobs lost respectively. However, the apparel, paper, and printing and publishing sectors actually gained employment; 2,800 in total.

While the dwindling share of manufacturing employment reflects the decline in traditional industries such as steel and textiles, the change of the composition of manufacturing employment highlights the rise of high-technology industries. It is generally agreed that the following industries can be considered as high technology: chemicals (SIC 28), machinery except electrical (SIC 35), electrical and electronic machinery (SIC 36), transportation equipment (SIC 37), and instruments and related products (SIC 38). These high-tech industries provided 38.3 percent of all U.S. manufacturing jobs in 1975 and 41.4 percent in 1982. In Alabama, their share of manufacturing jobs increased from 17.0 percent in 1975 to 21.4 percent in 1982. While the share of high-tech industries increased throughout the recession, efforts should be made to further increase their predominance in Alabama.

David C. Cheng
Carl E. Ferguson, Jr.

alabama business

Center for Business
and Economic Research
The University of Alabama
P.O. Box AK
University, Alabama 35486

Address correction requested

Non-Profit Blk. Rt.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Permit No. 16
University, AL 35486

CONGRESSIONAL INFO SERVICE
SRI ACQUISITIONS
4520 EAST-WEST HWY
WASHINGTON, DC